## LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

1-16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) Method to reduce coding artifacts within a discrete decoded picture, said method comprising the steps of:

spatial and/or temporal filtering with respective filter characteristics dependent on an image quality value,

wherein said spatial filtering includes a deblocking filtering,

wherein the deblocking filter operation decreases with an increasing image quality value,

wherein said deblocking filtering chooses an activity-dependent weighting function for a pixel to be filtered according to a image quality value, and

wherein the activity of both blocks to which common border said pixel belongs is considered.

18. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 17, wherein said weighting function is only applied to said pixel to be filtered if a blocking artifact is detected.

19. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 17, wherein said deblocking filtering is performed separately for horizontal and vertical borders of neighboring blocks.

20. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 17, wherein said spatial filtering includes a deringing filtering, wherein the deringing filter operation decreases with an increasing image quality value.

21. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 20, wherein said deringing filtering chooses a image quality value dependent deringing mask for a pixel to be filtered.

22. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 21, wherein said deringing mask is only applied to said pixel to be filtered if said pixel belongs to a homogenous area.

23. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 20, wherein said deringing filtering is a two dimensional filtering taking only neighboring pixels of said pixel to be filtered into account which belong to a same region.

24. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 17, wherein the temporal filter operation decreases with an increasing image quality value.

25. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 24,

wherein the temporal filter operation is realized with a blending filter applied to an entire frame which determines a new frame as a weighted sum of a predicted frame and an actual frame, which weighting is dependent on said image quality value and a difference of the actual frame with the predicted frame.

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26. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 25, wherein said predicted frame is determined on basis of a motion compensation of a previously determined new frame.

27. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 17, wherein said image quality value is determined based on a quantization scaling factor used for encoding the picture.

28. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 17, wherein said image quality value is determined based on a user selection.

29. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 17, wherein said discrete encoding/decoding of the picture is based on a discrete cosine transform.

30. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 17, wherein said discrete encoding/decoding of the picture is based on a MPEG coding scheme.

31-45. (Canceled)

46. (Previously Presented) Method to reduce coding artifacts within a discrete decoded picture, said method comprising the steps of:

spatial and/or temporal filtering with respective filter characteristics dependent on an image quality value,

wherein said spatial filtering includes a deringing filtering,

wherein the deringing filter operation decreases with an increasing image quality value.

and

wherein said deringing filtering is a two dimensional filtering taking only neighboring

pixels of said pixel to be filtered into account which belong to a same region.


47. (Previously Presented) Method to reduce coding artifacts within a discrete decoded

picture, said method comprising the steps of:

spatial and/or temporal filtering with respective filter characteristics dependent on an

image quality value,

wherein the temporal filter operation decreases with an increasing image quality value,

and

wherein the temporal filter operation is realized with a blending filter applied to an entire

frame which determines a new frame as a weighted sum of a predicted frame and an actual

frame, which weighting is dependent on said image quality value and a difference of the actual

frame with the predicted frame.


48. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 46, wherein said predicted frame is

determined on basis of a motion compensation of a previously determined new frame.